

thousands of miles from San Francisco and has probed the nearby ocean depths to find the cause of the fiercely virulent shellfish disease. It developed the studies which led to the cure of pernicious anemia, for which its first director, Dr. George Hoyt Whipple, among others, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine for 1934. It saved the canning industry of the State from disaster by developing preventive measures against botulism, which have proved highly effective. It has gone down into the tropical leprosaria in order to help solve the baffling secrets of leprosy and to aid in developing a cure.

One of the notable achievements of the Hooper Foundation was the isolation by Dr. Karl F. Meyer, its present director, of the causative virus of equine encephalomyelitis or sleeping sickness, which killed ten thousand horses and mules in the State in three years and which has become a nation-wide menace, not only to horses but to man. The discovery of latent psittacosis or "parrot fever" in certain types of bird pets in California was another achievement.

The so-called occupational diseases, relapsing fever, undulant fever, and many other public health hazards have been definitely held in check through work done by the laboratories and skilled technicians of the Hooper Foundation. One of its greatest developments has been the Pacific Institute of Tropical Diseases which, under the direction of the foundation, has launched a far-flung attack on the many tropical and Oriental maladies that threaten an invasion of this country.

The idea of the Foundation was first conceived by George Williams Hooper, pioneer California industrialist, but he died before he could put his plan into effect. It was followed out by his widow, Mrs. Sophronia Hooper, who not only directed all of the terms of the original trust, but willed her own private fortune to the Foundation.

The Foundation was formally opened in 1914, in the veterinary science building of the old "affiliated colleges" in San Francisco, and is a part of the medical school of the University of California.

United States Food and Drug Research Expanded to Study Vitamins and Pharmacology.—Two Doctors Nelson have been appointed as chiefs of new divisions of the Food and Drug Administration, Dr. E. M. Nelson as chief of the Vitamin Division, and Dr. Erwin E. Nelson as chief of the Pharmacological Division. The Department of Agriculture announced recently that each is now assembling a staff taken in part from older units of the Department and in part recruited from specialists in the sciences involved in the work of the new divisions.

In announcing the creation of the new divisions, W. G. Campbell, chief of the Food and Drug Administration, emphasized the increasing importance of work in each of these fields and said that the work is so essential that it must be pushed, even though, for the time being, the required funds may have to be deducted from support of regulatory work. The Vitamin Division will check the claims and help establish standards for food and drugs for which claims of vitamin potency are made. The Food and Drug Administration has been doing some routine work of this sort, but it has been inadequate to meet the growing need.

The Pharmacological Division, in addition to more comprehensive testing of certain medicinal products, will pay particular attention to several relatively new fields of work—the testing and standardization of glandular preparations put on the market in recent years, investigations of the effect of poisons and impurities present in foods, and testing of the effects of new synthetic chemicals used in foods and medicines. Of the poisons and impurities, the question of spray residues on fruits and vegetables is now most pressing. In regulating interstate commerce in sprayed products, the department is urgently in need of more positive and authoritative guides to safe practice, Mr. Campbell explains. . . .

Dr. Marion Dorset Dead.—A brilliant scientific career devoted to public service was ended with the death of Dr. Marion Dorset on July 14 at his home in Washington, D. C., after an illness of a few days. As a research worker in biological chemistry and chief of the Biochemic Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, Doctor Dorset gained an international reputation for contributions having useful application in the livestock, meat and dairy industries and in public health.

Although known especially for his research studies of hog cholera and his discovery of an effective preventive serum treatment for this devastating scourge, Doctor Dorset made many other important scientific contributions covering a wide field.

They included research studies on the tubercle bacillus, keeping qualities of meats, composition and nutritive value of various meats and meat food products, the development and testing of disinfectants and dipping preparations, biological products used against animal diseases, research in dairy bacteriology, and extensive related work. His production of a harmless and effective fluid for marking federally inspected meats has saved the United States Government millions of dollars through the greater economy of this method over the former practice of using tags.

Doctor Dorset likewise proposed and outlined many investigations which his associates carried out with beneficial results to agriculture and public welfare. One of these was the rapid method of detecting pullorum disease in chickens, a discovery that has been a boon to the poultry industry. In connection with the nation-wide campaign to eradicate bovine tuberculosis, all the tuberculin used by federal veterinarians has been produced under the immediate supervision of Doctor Dorset. . . .

On the occasion of his discovery of antihog cholera serum, Doctor Dorset had the opportunity to acquire wealth through the manufacture and sale of this product for which a large demand promptly developed. But after applying for and receiving a patent, he gave it to the Government and to the public so that any person in the United States might use the method without the payment of royalty.

Doctor Dorset organized the federal inspection of establishments licensed to manufacture serums, viruses, toxins, and related veterinary biological products. He likewise formulated the laboratory procedures in the administration of the Federal Meat Inspection Act. He was a member of numerous scientific bodies and frequently presented papers at national and international meetings. . . .

CORRESPONDENCE

Concerning editorial entitled "A Libel on the California State Board of Health (August issue, page 107).

WESTERN BRANCH, AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATION

August 20, 1935.

To the Editor:—Your editorial in the August number, commenting upon my address in New Mexico, calls for a statement and an interpretation from me.

First, the quotation used as a basis for the original article in the *New Mexico Health Officer* (June, 1935) was taken from uncorrected and unedited stenographic notes. Unintentionally, they do not present an accurate account of what was said or what was intended to be conveyed.

The speaker was attempting to present the necessity in a public health program for properly trained health officials with satisfactory tenure of office, working under sound organization with adequate budgets—the whole free from partisan political control.

No statement was made by the speaker with reference to the official acts or the personal relations between the members of the present State Board of Health. He was attacking a public health law and a political system that makes possible the removal of a qualified health official without just cause. The writer sincerely regrets if there has been a misinterpretation of an incomplete account of a statement made by him. He is glad to present these facts in order to remove any doubt as to his intentions.

As president-elect of the American Public Health Association, I see it as my duty to advocate improvement in public health laws and public health administration practices in this and other states. This was the main purpose of my New Mexico address. There is agreement among medical and public health leaders that sound public health programs require properly trained health officials with tenure of office based solely upon satisfactory services; further, that the Board of Health must be clothed with ample powers and given adequate budgets.

The writer is convinced that both the editor and the members of the State Board of Health are ready to join in any efforts to secure such improvements in the California health laws as will make for continuity of satisfactory services and administration.

WALTER H. BROWN, M. D.

In a reply letter to Doctor Brown, the editor stated in part as follows:

August 24, 1935.

Dr. Walter H. Brown,
Department of Hygiene,
Stanford University, California.

Dear Doctor Brown:—Receipt of your letter of August 20, in which you comment upon the editorial printed in the August issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE (page 107), is herewith acknowledged.

We are happy to learn that the stenographer who took the address you made to the New Mexico Public Health Association committed a serious error in his transcriptions. The synopsis of your article, as printed in the *New Mexico Health Officer*, Vol. V, No. 2, and from which our quotation was taken, gave to us the impression that you were of the opinion that the members of the present California State Board of Health were parties to tearing down and disrupting the Health Department of their State. The members of that Board did not agree with you, and they regret that you thought it necessary to single out California for special mention in order to lay a foundation for your other comments. If you received a copy of the *New Mexico Health Officer* about the same date (July 20), at which time a copy was given to the California State Board, and had promptly written to the California Board calling attention to the error, the editorial in the August issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE would not have been written.

Inasmuch as you hold a professorship in hygiene, I take it that you are familiar with the California laws which provide that the public health policies of the State shall be under the control of the Board as a whole; the secretary-director, who is the salaried executive, or administrative officer, being the individual who is responsible for putting the Board's orders into effect. . . .

Concerning security of tenure of office for executive public health officers who perform satisfactory service, and budgets adequate to cover the public health requirements of the commonwealth, we are in agreement with you. Sometimes, however, executive officials do not always give satisfactory service; and not infrequently a commonwealth is unable, through lack of funds, to provide an adequate budget. No absolute rule can, therefore, be made to cover all cases, and on that account laws should not be too rigid. . . .

Cordially yours,

GEORGE H. KRESS, M. D.

Concerning recreation courses for patients, University of California Extension Division.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Extension Division
Berkeley

August 14, 1935.

To the Editor:—Mr. Guy P. Jones of the Department of Public Health has suggested to me that you might possibly use a short note drawing attention to the University Extension Division's so-called "recreational" courses. It has recently come to our attention that a number of members of the medical profession have recommended such courses to patients from time to time.

Thanking you for any cooperation you might render, I am

Very sincerely yours,

WALTER S. FREDERICK,
Publications Editor.

Announcement follows:

University of California Recreation Courses.—Plans have been completed by the University of California Extension Division for the opening of more than 400 courses of instruction, open to anyone interested, during the fall months, according to an announcement received from Professor Leon J. Richardson, director.

"Men and women of all ages who seek some form of education but who are unable to attend the University of California will be able to secure training through the inauguration of this broad educational program throughout the state," says Professor Richardson.

Bulletins announcing the new courses are available to those who want detailed information and may be had by communication with the University Extension Division, Berkeley, California. Among the new "recreational" courses to be offered this fall are included "Six Trips Afield" and "Painting and Drawing for Recreation."

Other courses offered include studies in the field of anthropology, astronomy, biology, botany, history, political science, economics, and English, it is announced.

Concerning Assembly Bill 1765—An example of a "chartered university" by the State of California!

William R. Molony, M. D.,
Chairman, College Investigating Committee,
Board of Medical Examiners,
1930 Wilshire Boulevard,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Doctor Molony:—The enclosed copy of a letter in reference to a naturopathic diploma issued by the California University of Liberal Physicians is self-explanatory.

The 1921 minutes of the Board of Medical Examiners, page 2112, report of the College Investigating Committee, show the following entry: California University of Liberal Physicians, Los Angeles, "inactive." . . .

Very truly yours,

C. B. PINKHAM, M.D.,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Frank W. Taylor,
437 South Western Avenue,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Sir:—We greatly appreciate your kindness in forwarding us a diploma issued to you April 18, 1935, by the "California University of Liberal Physicians, chartered 1914 by the State of California . . ." which diploma grants you the degree "Doctor of Naturopathy."

Our records show that the California University of Liberal Physicians (Corporation No. 76965) was incorporated May 18, 1914. Among its purposes is stated, "To establish and conduct a college of learning for the purpose of teaching the art of healing and other sciences. . . . To prescribe courses of study and to issue certificates conferring degrees of proficiency and literary honors. . . . To establish and conduct a training school for nurses and masseurs. . . . To do anything and everything necessary to properly conduct a college of learning according to the provisions of Sections 649, 650, and 651 of the Civil Code of the State of California. . . ." The principal place of business is Los Angeles, and the trustees and incorpo-